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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-2 are cancelled.

3. (Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim 2, An information handling system for mirroring data, comprising:
source data storage configured to store and update data;
first intermediate data storage configured to store data, said first intermediate data storage associated with said source data storage;
target data storage configured to store data;
second intermediate data storage configured to store data, said second intermediate data storage associated with said target data storage; and
mirroring control configured to conduct first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage, the beginning of each said first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point, said first cyclic incremental flashcopy copied to said first intermediate data storage and synchronously mirrored to said second intermediate data storage, and to conduct a second cyclic incremental flashcopy of said second intermediate data storage to said target data storage, said second cyclic incremental flashcopy beginning in response to completion of said first cyclic incremental flashcopy, the beginning of said second cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising commit of said

consistency point; wherein said mirroring control additionally comprises a loop
representing said commit of said consistency point, initiating another first cyclic
incremental flashcopy of said source data storage in response to said commit of said
consistency point; wherein said mirroring control additionally responds is configured to
respond to an update write for said source data storage, determining to determining whether
data of said source data storage to be overwritten by said update write is present at said
first intermediate data storage and said second intermediate data storage; if so, allowing
to allow said update write to be written to said source data storage, and indicating to
indicate said update write in a future flashcopy map.

4.(Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim 3, wherein said
mirroring control employs is configured to employ said future flashcopy map for
conducting the next first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage.

5.(Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim 4, wherein said
mirroring control conducts is configured to conduct said first cyclic incremental
flashcopy employing a first flashcopy map indicating required, and not completed,
mirroring of grains of said source data storage, and said mirroring control is configured
to, in response to completion of mirroring of said grains indicated by said commit of said
consistency point, updates update said first flashcopy map with said future flashcopy
map.

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6 (Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim 4, wherein said mirroring control conducts is configured to conduct said first cyclic incremental flashcopy employing a first flashcopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of grains of said source data storage; and said mirroring control merges is configured to merge said first flashcopy map with said future flashcopy map to generate a new first flashcopy map, and resets said future flashcopy map; the beginning of a new first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point.

7 (Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim [11] 3, wherein said target data storage and said second intermediate data storage are remotely located with respect to locally located said source data storage and said first intermediate data storage; and additionally comprising at least one interface at said target data storage and said second intermediate data storage; and at least one interface at said source data storage and said first intermediate data storage; said interfaces for interfacing configured to interface with communication systems for communicating between said remote and local locations.

Claim 8 is cancelled.

9 (Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim 8, An information handling system for providing data for mirroring a source data storage to a target data storage, comprising:
said source data storage configured to store and update data;

first intermediate data storage configured to store data, said first intermediate data storage associated with said source data storage; and

mirroring control configured to conduct first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage; the beginning of each said first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point, said first cyclic incremental flashcopy copied to said first intermediate data storage and synchronously mirrored to a second intermediate data storage for storing data, said second intermediate data storage associated with said target data storage; and

a loop configured to initiate another first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage in response to a commit of said consistency point; wherein said commit of said consistency point comprises the beginning of a second cyclic incremental flashcopy of said second intermediate data storage to said target data storage, said second cyclic incremental flashcopy beginning in response to completion of said first cyclic incremental flashcopy;

wherein said mirroring control additionally responds is configured to respond to an update write for said source data storage, determining to determine whether data of said source data storage to be overwritten by said update write is present at said first intermediate data storage and said second intermediate data storage; if so, allowing to allow said update write to be written to said source data storage, and indicating to indicate said update write in a future flashcopy map.

10. (Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim 9, wherein said mirroring control employs is configured to employ said future flashcopy map for conducting the next first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage.

11. (Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim 10, wherein said first cyclic incremental flashcopy conducted by said mirroring control employs a first flashcopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of grains of said source data storage, and said mirroring control is configured to, in response to completion of mirroring of said grains indicated by said commit of said consistency point, updating update said first flashcopy map with said future flashcopy map.

12. (Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim 10, wherein said mirroring control conducts is configured to conduct said first cyclic incremental flashcopy employing a first flashcopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of grains of said source data storage, and said mirroring control merges is configured to merge said first flashcopy map with said future flashcopy map to generate a new first flashcopy map, and resets reset said future flashcopy map, the beginning of a new first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point.

13. (Currently amended) The information handling system of Claim [[8]] 9, wherein said target data storage and said second intermediate data storage are remotely located with respect to locally located said source data storage and said first intermediate data storage, and additionally comprising at least one interface at said target data storage and

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said second intermediate data storage for interfacing configured to interface said mirroring control and said source data storage with at least one communication system for communicating between said remote and local locations.

Claims 14-15 are cancelled.

16 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 15, additionally comprising the steps:

of A method for mirroring data of updatable source data storage to target data storage, said source data storage for storing and updating data, comprising the steps of:
conducting first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage, the beginning of each said first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point;
said first cyclic incremental flashcopy copied to a first intermediate data storage, and synchronously mirrored to a second intermediate data storage;
a loop initiating another first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage in response to a commit of said consistency point, wherein said commit of said consistency point comprises the beginning of a second cyclic incremental flashcopy of said second intermediate data storage to said target data storage, said second cyclic incremental flashcopy beginning in response to completion of said first cyclic incremental flashcopy; and

in response to an update write for said source data storage, determining whether data of said source data storage to be overwritten by said update write is present at said synchronously mirrored first intermediate data storage and said second intermediate data storage;

if so, allowing said update write to be written to said source data storage, and
indicating said update write in a future flashecopy map.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein said future flashecopy map is employed
in said step of conducting a first cyclic incremental flashecopy for the next first cyclic
incremental flashecopy of said source data storage.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17, wherein said first cyclic incremental flashecopy
step employs a first flashecopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of
grains of said source data storage, and additionally comprises the step of, in response to
completion of, mirroring of said grains indicated by said commit of said consistency
point, updating said first flashecopy map with said future flashecopy map, to thereby
employ said updated first flashecopy map in said step of conducting a first cyclic
incremental flashecopy for the next first cyclic incremental flashecopy of said source data
storage.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 17, wherein said first cyclic incremental flashecopy
step employs a first flashecopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of
grains of said source data storage, and additionally comprises the step of merging said
first flashecopy map with said future flashecopy map to generate a new first flashecopy map,
and resetting said future flashecopy map, the beginning of a new first cyclic incremental
flashecopy comprising a consistency point.

Claims 20-21 are cancelled.

22. (Currently amended) ~~The computer program product of Claim 21, additionally comprising computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to:~~ A computer program product usable with at least one programmable computer processor having computer readable code embodied therein, said at least one programmable computer processor for controlling mirroring data of updatable source data storage to target data storage, said computer program product comprising:
computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to conduct first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage, the beginning of each said first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point; said first cyclic incremental flashcopy copied to a first intermediate data storage and synchronously mirrored to a second intermediate data storage; and
computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to conduct a loop initiating another first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage in response to a commit of said consistency point; wherein said commit of said consistency point comprises the beginning of a second cyclic incremental flashcopy of said second intermediate data storage to said target data storage, said second cyclic incremental flashcopy beginning in response to completion of said first cyclic incremental flashcopy; and
computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to, in response to an update write for said source data storage,

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determine whether data of said source data storage to be overwritten by said update write is present at said synchronously mirrored first intermediate data storage and said second intermediate data storage;

if so, allow said update write to be written to said source data storage, and indicate said update write in a future flashcopy map.

23.(Original) The computer program product of Claim 22, wherein said computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to conduct said first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said data storage, employs said future flashcopy map for conducting said first cyclic incremental flashcopy for the next first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage.

24.(Original) The computer program product of Claim 23, wherein said computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to conduct said first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said data storage, employs a first flashcopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of grains of said source data storage; and

said computer program product additionally comprising computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to, in response to completion of mirroring of said grains indicated by said commit of said consistency point, update said first flashcopy map with said future flashcopy map, to thereby employ said updated first flashcopy map in said step of conducting a first cyclic incremental flashcopy for the next first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage.

25.(Original): The computer program product of Claim 23, wherein said computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to conduct said first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said data storage, employs a first flashcopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of grains of said source data storage; and

said computer program product additionally comprising computer readable program code causing said at least one programmable computer processor to merge said first flashcopy map with said future flashcopy map to generate a new first flashcopy map, and reset said future flashcopy map; the beginning of a new first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point.

Claim 26 is cancelled.

27.(Currently amended): The mirroring controller of Claim 26. A mirroring controller configured to control mirroring data of updatable source data storage to target data storage, said source data storage for storing and updating data; said mirroring controller comprising:

mirroring control configured to conduct first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage; the beginning of each said first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point; said first cyclic incremental flashcopy copied to a first intermediate data storage for storing data; and synchronously mirrored to a second intermediate data storage for storing data; and to conduct a loop initiating another first

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cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage in response to a commit of said consistency point, wherein said commit of said consistency point comprises the beginning of a second cyclic incremental flashcopy of said second intermediate data storage to said target data storage, said second cyclic incremental flashcopy beginning in response to completion of said first cyclic incremental flashcopy; wherein said mirroring control additionally responds is configured to respond to an update write for said source data storage, determining whether data of said source data storage to be overwritten by said update write is present at said first intermediate data storage and said second intermediate data storage, if so, allowing said update write to be written to said source data storage, and indicating said update write in a future flashcopy map.

28. (Currently amended) The mirroring controller of Claim 27, wherein said mirroring control employs is configured to employ said future flashcopy map for conducting the next first cyclic incremental flashcopy of said source data storage.

29. (Currently amended) The mirroring controller of Claim 28, wherein said mirroring control conducts is configured to conduct said first cyclic incremental flashcopy employing a first flashcopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of grains of said source data storage, and, said mirroring control is configured to, in response to completion of mirroring of said grains indicated by said commit of said consistency point, updates update said first flashcopy map with said future flashcopy map.

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30. (Currently amended) The mirroring controller of Claim 28, wherein said mirroring control ~~consists~~ is configured to conduct said first cyclic incremental flashcopy employing a first flashcopy map indicating required, and not completed, mirroring of grains of said source data storage; and, said mirroring control ~~merges~~ is configured to merge said first flashcopy map with said future flashcopy map to generate a new first flashcopy map, and ~~resets~~ reset said future flashcopy map, the beginning of a new first cyclic incremental flashcopy comprising a consistency point.